



# Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

## Lorain, OH

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of Lorain was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. Lorain (population 65,476) is located on Lake Erie about 30 miles west of Cleveland at the mouth of the Black River. The growth of the city was based on manufacturing, primarily steel, auto, and shipping. Manufacturing facilities lined the Lake Erie and Black River waterfronts. Much of the heavy industry is now closed, leaving potentially contaminated former industrial properties throughout the city. Many of the abandoned facilities are surrounded by lower income housing. The recent closing of Ford's Econoline plant cost the city 1,500 jobs. The median household income in Lorain is much lower than the national median, and almost 18 percent of Lorain residents live below the poverty level. Despite this economic distress, the city created an



### Assessment Grants



**\$200,000 for hazardous substances**  
**\$200,000 for petroleum**

EPA has selected the City of Lorain for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to support community outreach, identify and prioritize sites, and conduct up to eight Phase I and three Phase II environmental site assessments. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform the same tasks at sites with potential petroleum contamination.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team  
312-886-7576  
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of Lorain, OH  
440-204-2270

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

urban renewal plan and is making progress to reclaim brownfields properties. Assessment grant funds will enable the city to leverage state cleanup funding and private investments and continue the process of redeveloping brownfields into commercial, residential, and public uses.